

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A linking information making device comprising:

a service list acquisition unit which acquires a service list expressing respective services which execute ~~predetermined processing~~processings of document data, the respective services being provided by service processing devices;

an interface information acquisition unit which acquires from the respective service processing devices pieces of interface information corresponding to the respective service processing devices, the interface information including a method by which the predetermined processing is started; and

a linking information making unit which makes linking information to be used for linking the predetermined processings based on the interface information which has been acquired by the interface information acquisition unit, ~~the linking information linking the respective services and being used by a service processing device having a function for starting a linking process that includes execution of the respective services~~ and transmits the linking information, the linking information including information to be displayed on a screen of a service processing devices and to be selected by a user operating the screen when the user instructs to start linking the predetermined processings; and

a management unit which stores the transmitted linking information and further transmits the stored linking information to the service processing devices for displaying on the screen based on a request from the service processing devices.

2. (Currently Amended) A linking information making method comprising:

~~a service list acquisition step at which~~acquiring a service list expressing respective services, which execute predetermined ~~processing~~processings of document data, is ~~acquired~~; the respective services being provided by service processing devices;

~~an interface information acquisition step at which~~further acquiring pieces of interface information corresponding to the respective service processing devices ~~are acquired from the respective service processing devices, the interface information including a method by which the predetermined processing is started; and~~

~~a linking information making step at which~~making linking information is ~~made, the linking information being to be used for linking the predetermined processings based on the acquired pieces of the interface information, the linking information including information to be displayed on a screen of a service processing devices and to be selected by a user operating the screen when the user instructs to start the predetermined processings; and the interface information which has been acquired at the interface information acquisition step, and the linking information linking the respective services and being used by a service processing device having a function for starting a linking process that includes execution of the respective services~~

~~transmitting the linking information to the service processing devices based on a request from the service processing devices.~~

3. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable recording medium that stores a program for controlling a computer to execute a processing for making linking information, having recorded a linking information making program, wherein by the program the program including instructions for controlling the computer to execute:

acquiring a service list expressing respective services, which execute predetermined processing of document data, is acquired; the respective services being provided by service processing devices;

interface information that corresponds to the respective service processing devices is acquired; and

processing, which makes linking information based on the acquired interface information, the linking information linking the respective services and being used by a service processing device having a function for starting a linking process that includes execution of the respective services

further acquiring pieces of interface information corresponding to the respective service processing devices from the respective service processing devices, the interface information including a method by which the predetermined processing is started;

making linking information to be used for linking the predetermined processings based on the acquired pieces of the interface information, the linking information including information to be displayed on a screen of a service processing devices and to be selected by a user operating the screen when the user instructs to start linking the predetermined processings; and

transmitting the linking information to the service processing devices based on a request from the service processing devices.

4. (Currently Amended) A document processing system, comprising:

the linking information making device according to claim 1 which acquires the service list transmitted from a search device and the pieces of the interface information from the service processing devices via the search device, further comprising;

a plurality of service processing devices which provide services for executing predetermined ~~processing~~processings of document data and transmit ~~the~~ pieces of ~~service~~the interface information ~~at any time to the search device~~; and

the search device provided with: a service information storage unit for storing the pieces of ~~service~~the interface information which have been transmitted ~~at any time~~ from currently-available service processing devices; a search unit for searching services corresponding to services, for which search has been requested, using the pieces of ~~service~~the interface information which have been stored in the service information storage unit; and a transmission unit which transmits the service list based on the search results of the search unit.

5. (Original) A document processing system according to claim 4, wherein the transmission unit of the search device transmit the service list expressing services which are services provided by currently-available service processing devices and correspond to services for which search has been requested, to the linking information making device.

6. (Currently Amended) A document processing system according to claim 4, wherein the service processing devices transmit pieces of input information and pieces of output information on services, service names, and service information location as ~~service~~the interface information.

7. (Original) A document processing system according to claim 4, wherein the interface information acquisition unit of the linking information making device acquires pieces of service information location for accessing the respective service processing devices, from the search device, and acquires pieces of interface information from the service processing devices based on pieces of the acquired service information location.

8-13. (Canceled)

14. (New) A linking information making device according to claim 1, wherein the linking information is a file in an XML format.

15. (New) A linking information making method according to claim 2, wherein the linking information is a file in an XML format.

16. (New) A computer-readable recording medium according to claim 3, wherein the linking information is a file in an XML format.